

# THE CIVIL HISTORY

The Regional Newsletter of  
The Friends of the National Archives and  
The National Archives at Atlanta

January 2010

On January 29, 2010, the National Archives at Atlanta was pleased to partner with Georgia Public Broadcasting in an educator workshop based on a new PBS special which will begin airing in February. **Faces of America** is a new four-part PBS series from the producers of *African American Lives 1 & 2* and *Looking for Lincoln*.

The series explores America as a nation of immigrants and the richly diverse racial ethnic, cultural, and religious heritage that truly defines the American experience. The program is hosted by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

The series uses genealogy and genetics to explore the families of renowned Americans. Among the celebrities Mr. Gates profiles are Meryl Streep, Yo-Yo Ma, Kristi Yamaguchi, Mario Batali, Stephen Colbert, and Eva Longoria (whose first ancestor arrived in the New World from Spain in 1603).

Chris Czajka with WNET in New York, the producers of the series, was a presenter, and the audience was wowed by clips from the series. He discussed and made available to the educators information for integrating the program in the classroom.



**Faces of America** will air on Georgia Public Broadcasting for four weeks beginning February 10, 2010. Above are Henry Louis Gates, Jr. with actress Meryl Streep.



**Marilyn Stansbury, Director of Education with Georgia Public Broadcasting, presents door prizes to lucky winners.**



**Keynote speaker Ken Thomas, well-known genealogists and genealogy columnist for the Atlanta Journal Constitution, delivered the keynote address.**

Other partners with GPB included the Georgia Historical Society, Georgia Humanities Council, and Thirteen: WNET New York.

## Message from the President

FNAS president, George Jacobs, issues a special invitation to the general public to attend the Annual Meeting of the Friends of the National Archives Southeast Region. The meeting provides an opportunity to learn more about the FNAS and the wonderful support it provides to the National Archives at Atlanta.

Date: April 10, 2010

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: National Archives at Atlanta  
5780 Jonesboro Road  
Morrow, GA 30260  
770-968-2100

Topic: **From the Revolution to Weather**

Speaker: **Connie Potter, National Archives, Washington, DC**

We are delighted to welcome Connie Potter as our featured speaker. Connie, the senior genealogy specialist in the Research Support Branch at Archives I, has been involved in the field of family history for 30 years. Throughout her career, she has regularly demonstrated tremendous initiative in educating others about genealogy. Most genealogy researchers who visit the National Archives in Washington, D.C. have met Connie and have benefitted from her years of experience in genealogical research.

Connie's topic is intriguing. How many genealogists have considered how weather influences their family's history? Connie begins with a Revolutionary War pension of a man who was at the crossing of the Delaware. She then moves to the Papers of the Continental Congress and how weather effected the War; and then the Dust Bowl, the Great Depression, and the 1940 census.

She will also talk about series on microfilm and online and the differences in both approaches.



In 2007, she received the Archivist Award from then Archivist of the United States Allen Weinstein for educating and mentoring NARA staff, volunteers, and the public about family history records.

## Social Media at NARA

There are more ways to connect with the National Archives than ever before. Keep up with the Archives through our Twitter feeds, "friend" us on Facebook, check out the YouTube channel, browse the Flickr photo site, and participate in the NARAtions blog.

Check our Facebook account at [www.facebook.com/pages/Morrow-GA/National-Archives-at-Atlanta/209615350894#](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Morrow-GA/National-Archives-at-Atlanta/209615350894#)

We are on Flickr at [www.flickr.com/photos/usnationalarchives](http://www.flickr.com/photos/usnationalarchives)

## Finding Your Ancestor's Voices

**Finding Your Ancestor's Voices: A Symposium in Celebration of Black History Month**

Date: 02/20/10

Time: 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Offered in partnership with the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Attendees must pre-register. Lunch provided by Chick-fil-A.

Register at [www.blackfamilyhistoryday.com](http://www.blackfamilyhistoryday.com) or by calling 404-252-4864.



**1920s  
The Golden Age**

**An Exhibit of Paintings, Documents, and  
Films celebrating America's Golden Age**

**In partnership with Arts Clayton**

The United States began the 1920s shaken from the toll of the First World War. The decade saw the establishment of Prohibition and national women's suffrage as well as innovations in technology, music, fashion, entertainment, and art. Amidst a growing modernist movement, a generation was motivated to rethink how they lived, worked, and viewed their place in the world.

The National Archives at Atlanta

Exhibit Gallery

March 16, 2010— April 15, 2010



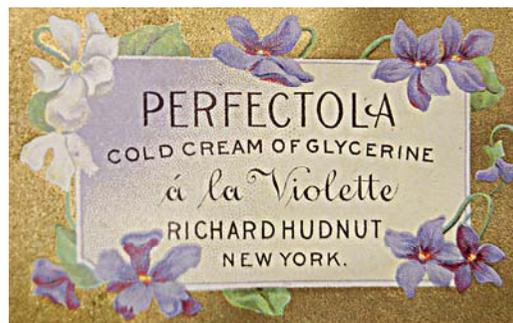
# Trademarks in the Customs Records

The records of the Customs Service often contain interesting and surprising letters and documents.

The records include letters sent and received; records of entrances and clearances of vessels; cargo manifests; impost books; journals and logbooks of privateer vessels; passenger lists and abstracts; crew lists; records relating to hospital accounts and returns; wreck reports; reports of seizures; shipping articles; records relating to revenue cutters and to the revenue marine; and vessel documentation files of customhouses and customs districts.

They are a treasure of interesting facts about what came in and what went out of U. S. ports.

One especially colorful series in Atlanta are letters sent to the Collector of Customs at Charleston, South Carolina, from various companies using the port of Charleston to import goods into the United States. The letters contain information regarding trademarks of specific products shipped to Charleston sometimes including detailed and colorful labels.



More Custom Records related to trademarks coming soon to our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/pages/Morrow-GA/National-Archives-at-Atlanta/209615350894#](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Morrow-GA/National-Archives-at-Atlanta/209615350894#)

## Which records are the most requested in the National Archives?

The answer is "Military Records." Military personnel records can be used for proving military service, or as a valuable tool in genealogical research. Most veterans and their next-of-kin can obtain **free** copies of their **DD Form 214 (Report of Separation)** and other military and medical records several ways. You may use our eVetRecs system to create your request or you may mail or fax a copy of Standard Form 180 download SF=180. Complete details are on our website at: <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/get-service-records.html>

Please note that the National Archives does not hold state militia records. For these records, you will need to contact the appropriate State Archives.

The National Archives and Records Administration stores the following military records:

Older military personnel records (generally **prior to 1917**) are on file at the National Archives in Washington, DC.

Military records from 1917– present are held in the National Military Personnel Records Center in St. Louis, Missouri.

### Military Pension/Bounty Land Warrant Applications

Of special interest to family historians are Military Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Applications. These military pension application files are based on Federal (not State or Confederate) service between 1775 and 1903 (before World War I). The files may be requested by completing NATF 85 (available on our website) or through our Order Online service at <http://www.archives.gov/order/>

For more detailed information see **20th-Century Veterans' Service Records: Safe, Secure—and Available** By Norman Eisenberg available in the Spring 2005 (Vol. 37, No. 1) issue of *Prologue*.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!  
WWW.FRIENDSNAS.ORG

**Save the Date!**

**July 31, 2010**

**Genealogy Summit at the  
National Archives at Atlanta**

*Genealogy begins as an interest,  
Becomes a hobby;  
Continues as an avocation,  
Takes over as an obsession,  
And in its last stages,  
Is an incurable disease.*

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